

JAMES RIVER SWCD MONTHLY MEETING  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 3, 2008

James River Soil and Water Conservation District held its monthly board meeting on April 3, 2008, at the Chesterfield County Lane B. Ramsey Administration building. Chairman Don Bagshaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. opening with invocation. Attendees were:

*Directors:* Don Bagshaw, Margie Davis, Chris Elko, W. D. Kreider, Mike Likins, Charlie Skalsky

*Associates:* George Beadles

*Staff:* Linda McAllister, Dan Lee

*Agency Partners:* Carrie Hagin (DCR), Anthony Howell (NRCS)

*Absent:* John Kinch, Scott Reiter

*Guests:* Betty Holzwarth

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of March 8, 2008**

Draft copies of the March 8th meeting minutes were sent out for review and approval. There were no corrections.

A motion was made that the March minutes be accepted as presented.

Motion made: Margie Davis. Seconded: Charlie Skalsky. Motion passed.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** A short report was presented. A written report is attached.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Betty Holzwarth introduced herself and made brief comments

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION (DCR):**

Carrie Hagin, CDC, provided a written report for the month of April and reviewed highlights. Directories were distributed Middle James Roundtable-Meghan Summers. Media ads are available on CD. Quarterly reports due April 14. Budget – 5% cut, equates to about 8,200 per district. Copy is attached. Cost share numbers should stay about the same.

**NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS):**

Anthony Howell provided a written report detailing trainings and meetings attended, conservation assistance, projects in progress for the month. Copy is attached.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AGRICULTURAL:** Dan reported that three conservation plans need to be approved: Charles Skalsky, Mary Tomko and John Petik. Motion was made to approve the conservation plans.

Motion made: Margie Davis. Seconded: Chris Elko. Charlie Skalsky abstained from voting. Motion passed

**EDUCATION:**

**Faith Leaders Workshop:** The staff encouraged participation and requested additional door prizes. It is being held on April 10, 2008 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Colonial Heights.

**"Living in your Watershed" Booklets-** The booklets are completed and have been picked up. They should be distributed in Chesterfield County schools by April 14th. George Beadles discussed the "Living in Your Watershed" booklets and the need to acknowledge the generous donations that made the project possible.

A motion was made to present copies of "Living in Your Watershed" to Chesterfield and Prince George County Board of Supervisors and send letters of gratitude to the past Board of Supervisor members.

Chris Elko will make the presentation in Chesterfield and Don Bagshaw will present to Prince George County.

**Envirothon-** The local competition was held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The winning team was Prince George High School and they will represent the District in the Area III competition.

**Rain Barrel Workshop** – Training is scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup> and there will be 2 workshops on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 1 on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Farm Day** – Scheduled for April 22, 2008 for Prince George County 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. There was a board discussion of Prince George Farm Day and brain storming as to how Chesterfield County could be served in an educational capacity. This discussion will be discussed by the Education Committee and brought back to the Board.

**FINANCE:**

Approve Financial Reports: Linda presented a draft report. The report will be finalized and presented for approval at the next meeting.

**PERSONNEL:** Suzanne Thore submitted her resignation effective March 28, 2008 to accept a full time position. The position of Program Support will not be filled immediately and staff will make determination about changes to job description.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING:**

The Plan needs to be reviewed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Area III Spring Meeting** – Don reviewed the program. The state meeting will be in Roanoke at the Roanoke Plaza Hotel. The meeting will be December 7-9, 2008. James River SWCD will be the host for the 2009 spring meeting. Chris Elko will be working on site and sponsorship details.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Committee to Draft Policy for Holding Conservation Easements:** Don Bagshaw appointed a committee to draft a policy for the District's role in holding easements. The committee will be George Beadles, Dan Lee and Chris Elko, with Carrie Hagin acting as an advisor. Carrie will research what is policy in other Districts. Discussion followed.

**May Board Meeting:** It was the consensus of the Board that the May meeting be cancelled and media will be advised.

**Conservation Plans:**

A motion to give the Conservation Specialist the authority to poll the Ag. Committee on the approval of conservation plans for Chip Bain, Richard Goode and Flowerdew Hundred.

Motion made: Chris Elko. Seconded: Charlie Skalsky. Motion passed.

**Disaster Provision for Cover Crop:** Provision was discussed. A motion was made to allow producers participating in the SL-8B and 8C BMP practice to harvest cover crop for hay or silage without penalty, based on the disaster provision of the practice.

Motion made: Mike Likins. Seconded: Chris Elko. Charlie Skalsky abstained. Motion passed. The Conservation Specialist will contact impacted producers.

**Employee's Report:** Written reports are in the packet.

**Director Reports:** Bill requested clerical help to take minutes at the minutes. Staff will investigate work with Personnel Committee to make determination on how this could work.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McAllister  
District Administrator

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Don Bagshaw, Chairman

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